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Subject: Clips - Friday, August 2, 2013

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Governor Nikki Haley News

Fox Carolina: Haley signs new K-9 liability law in Upstate

<http://www.foxcarolina.com/story/22989001/haley-in-upstate-to-sign-new-k-9-liability-law>

Ashley Daley

Gov. Nikki Haley will hold a ceremonial bill signing for a law enforcement dog liability bill, at the Greenville County Sheriff's Office Training Center on Thursday. The governor officially signed the bill into law June 12, but will celebrate it today. The new law gives law enforcement working with K-9s more court protections when their dog bites a criminal suspect.

Patch: Haley Signs Law Enforcement K-9 Liability Bill in Taylors (Video)

The new law gives law enforcement working with K-9s more court protections when their dog bites a criminal suspect.

<http://taylors.patch.com/groups/police-and-fire/p/haley-signs-law-enforcement-k9-liability-bill-in-taylors>

Carolyn Farr Smith

Gov. Nikki Haley held a ceremonial bill signing for a law enforcement dog liability bill at the Greenville County Sheriff's Office Training Center Thursday. The governor officially signed the bill into law June 12, which gives law enforcement working with K-9s more court protections when their dog bites a criminal suspect.

The State: Redevelopment in SC just got more attractive (Opinion)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/02/2894803/bedenbaugh-redevelopment-in-sc.html>

Michael Bedenbaugh

On June 11, Gov. Nikki Haley signed into law the Abandoned Buildings Revitalization Act, creating tremendous opportunity for towns, cities and counties that have been blighted by empty and under-utilized buildings. Here's how it works. Any commercial building that has at least 66 percent vacancy for more than five years qualifies for a 25 percent state income tax credit earned against the cost of rehabilitation.

CNN: Trio of 2016 Republicans heading to South Carolina

<http://politicalticker.blogs.cnn.com/2013/08/01/first-on-cnn-trio-of-2016-republicans-heading-to-south-carolina/>

Peter Hamby

Three prominent Republican governors thought to have designs on the White House will descend on the early primary state of South Carolina later this month to raise money for Gov. Nikki Haley, who is bracing for what could be a tough re-election fight next year. Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal and Texas Gov. Rick Perry will appear as "special guests" at an Aug. 26 fundraiser for Haley in Greenville, according to a copy of an invitation to the event obtained by CNN.

Associated Press: 3 GOP governors to attend Haley fundraiser

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=5i0Oe5zO

SEANNA ADCOX

Three Republican governors who are potential 2016 presidential candidates will help Gov. Nikki Haley raise money later this month toward her expected bid for a second term. Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal and Texas Gov. Rick Perry are all slated to attend the Aug. 26 fundraiser in Greenville, providing an opportunity for them to mingle with donors in a particularly conservative part of a GOP-controlled state that holds the first-in-the-South presidential primary.

The Hill: Govs. Jindal, Perry, Walker heading to SC for Haley fundraiser

<http://thehill.com/blogs/blog-briefing-room/news/314929-jindal-perry-walker-traveling-to-sc-for-gov-haley>

Daniel Strauss

Republican Govs. Bobby Jindal (La.), Rick Perry (Texas) and Scott Walker (Wis.) will travel to early primary state South Carolina in August to help fundraise for Gov. Nikki Haley (R-S.C.) who could be facing a tough reelection fight. Walker, Jindal, and Perry will be "special guests" at a fundraiser for Haley in Greenville, S.C. on Aug. 26, according to CNN, which first reported the event.

USA Today: 2016 watch: Trio of GOP govts head to South Carolina

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/onpolitics/2013/08/01/haley-south-carolina-governor-jindal-perry-walker/2608175/>

Catalina Camia

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley is getting some re-election help from some high-profile friends — all Republican governors who may have their eyes on the White House in 2016. Scott Walker of Wisconsin, Rick Perry of Texas and Bobby Jindal of Louisiana will be "special guests" on Aug. 26 at a fundraiser for Haley in Greenville, according to CNN, which obtained a copy of the event's invitation.

The State: Walker, Jindal and Perry will raise money for Gov. Nikki Haley in Greenville

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/01/2893894/walker-jindal-and-perry-will-raise.html>

ADAM BEAM

Three Republican governors with presidential aspirations are coming to South Carolina later this month to raise money for Gov. Nikki Haley. Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal and Texas Gov. Rick Perry will headline a \$1,000-per-couple fundraiser at Greenville developer Bob Hughes' home on Aug. 26, according to Tim Pearson, Haley's political advisor. The news was first reported by CNN's Peter Hamby.

Greenville News: GOP governors coming to Greenville to raise money for Haley

Perry, Jindal, Walker joining Haley for private fundraiser

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130801/NEWS/308010153/GOP-governors-coming-Greenville-raise-money-Haley>

Rudolph Bell

Three high-profile Republican governors — and potential presidential candidates in 2016 — are due in Greenville later this month to help raise money for Gov. Nikki Haley. Govs. Rick Perry of Texas, Bobby Jindal of Louisiana and Scott Walker of Wisconsin are scheduled to attend the private fundraiser at the home of Greenville developer Bob Hughes on Aug. 26, according to an invitation.

Patch: 2016 Contenders to Attend Nikki Haley Fundraiser in Greenville

<http://ht.ly/nxEkA>

Shawn Drury

Three of the governors mentioned as possible contenders for the 2016 Republican presidential nomination will attend a fundraiser in Greenville for Nikki Haley later this month. CNN's Peter Hamby reported on Thursday that Bobby Jindal of Louisiana, Rick Perry of Texas and Scott Walker of Wisconsin will attend a \$1,000 per couple dinner on Aug. 26.

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South Carolina News

Island Packet: Sheheen to meet with Liberal Ladies of Hilton Head

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2013/08/01/2608409/sheheen-to-meet-with-liberal-ladies.html>

South Carolina Democratic gubernatorial candidate Vincent Sheheen, a state senator from Camden, will speak at The Liberal Ladies Lunch Group of Hilton Head's monthly meeting at noon Friday at Indigo Golf Club on Hilton Head. Sheheen will take questions at the event, according to a news release.

Post and Courier: Aviation Authority, like SPA, needs a full-time director (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130802/PC1002/130809933/1021/spa-has-a-full-time-leader-aviation-authority-needs-one-too>

RON BRINSON

I know Paul Campbell as a good man and a thoughtful, hard-working state senator. By most accounts, he was an excellent executive manager in the aluminum manufacturing business. But there are realities for the

good senator and the Charleston County Aviation Authority to consider. The authority board named Sen. Campbell its executive director on Tuesday.

The State: Local teen makes it big on Jeopardy!

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/01/2866540/midlands-area-teen-makes-it-on.html>

CASSIE COPE

The category: Jeopardy! Kids Week The clue: This young Richland Library volunteer hopes to one day work with Ellen DeGeneres on a "Finding Nemo" sequel. The answer: Who is Josiah Washington? Josiah bested his two competitors throughout the half-hour show and was the only one to come up with the Final Jeopardy Question.

Greenville News: S.C. education data shows students improving, schools sliding

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130802/NEWS04/308020017/S-C-education-data-shows-students-improving-schools-sliding>

Ron Barnett

It can happen only in a universe in which you can move forward and backward at the same time. Or in the quantum mechanics of educational accountability. South Carolina public school students are improving their grades in most subjects, while the majority of their schools are sliding downhill toward a big red F, according to apparently conflicting reports released by the state Department of Education on Thursday.

Post and Courier: South Carolina schools overall see improvement on test scores, but gains not enough to meet state goals

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130801/PC16/130809995/1006/>

Diette Courrégé Casey

Although South Carolina students fared better this year on two of the state's biggest tests, they didn't make enough progress to meet the state's goals. The state set higher achievement targets for 2012-13, and nearly half of the state's school districts fell short of those marks. That meant they earned worse letter grades.

The State: Amid better PASS performance, confusion on what academic progress means

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/01/2893900/amid-better-pass-performance-confusion.html>

CAROLYN CLICK

South Carolina public school students in grades 3-8 have demonstrated academic progress in key subject areas across the board, although math proficiency remains stubbornly elusive. In unveiling three sets of standardized student achievement data Thursday, the S.C. Education Department also reported an increase in the number of students passing the high school exit exam.

Aiken Standard: School test results may confuse parents, public

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20130802/AIK0101/130809935/school-test-results-may-confuse-parents-public>

ROB NOVIT

A revamped state standardized test – created with the blessing of the U.S. Department of Education – is likely to create confusion about the results, Aiken School District administrators said. Mick Zais, the state superintendent of education, expressed the need for accountability testing, but acknowledged that ever-increasing performance goals mandated at the federal level are contributing to declining results in some test areas.

Patch: Charleston Schools Maintain 'B' in Latest Federal Accountability Data

Mount Pleasant schools continue high marks.

http://mountpleasant-sc.patch.com/groups/schools/p/federal-standards-charleston-county-schools-remain-a-b_3ef2712e

Chris Winston

The Charleston County School District saw its federal accountability grade fall 6 points in 2013. The district scored 83.2 on the 100-point scale, for a B grade, in 2013. In 2012, the Charleston County School District scored 89.2, also a B.

Post and Courier: Charleston County schools maintain 'B' grade, generally improve

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130801/PC16/130809993/1006/charleston-county-schools-maintains-b-grade-but-sees-slip-in-its-index-score>

Diette Courrégé Casey

Charleston County School Superintendent Nancy McGinley felt pleased with the district's progress in literacy, but she says the district needs to see more improvement in math. The school district maintained its "B" average, but its score on the federal letter-grading scale fell nearly 6 points to 83.2. One of the biggest reasons the score dropped appeared to be tied to elementary students meeting fewer state goals in every subject tested except social studies.

Herald Independent: Confusion surrounds letter grades in district

http://www.heraldindependent.com/view/full_story/23263154/article-Confusion-surrounds-letter-grades-in-district

Kevin Boozer

Letter grades for South Carolina schools are in from the federal ESEA waiver system, a modification of the No Child Left Behind Act, and the Fairfield County School District's score is down from B to a D in 2012-13 based on those scores. When examining the PASS scores, J.W. Ragley said the district's lack of progress in mathematics is a large reason for the decline in scores. Ragley noted that this year under ESEA the goals for math became harder to reach. Ragley is the State Department of Education spokesperson.

WLTX: Education Numbers Show Work Still Needed

<http://www.wltx.com/news/article/244600/2/Education-Numbers-Show-Work-Still-Needed>

Dakarai Turner

The newest state education numbers were released Thursday and poverty continues to play a major role in the success of our state's students. This year marks the second year the Education Department has implemented a statewide letter grading system.

WACH: Alleged Scapegoat Defends Herself Against DHEC

<http://www.midlandsconnect.com/m/news/story?id=928924#.UfurZ23wrdu>

Stephanie Helling

It seems like a David and Goliath story. One woman versus a state agency like DHEC. However, Shea Rabley is not afraid to go up against this giant. Rabley has been accused by DHEC Director Catherine Templeton of drawing out a tuberculosis investigation in an attempt to benefit herself financially. Rabley sat down with me on Thursday to tell me why she says all these accusations are completely false and what she hopes will happen after this lawsuit is over. She starts off by addressing the criticism she took too long to conduct her investigation into the tuberculosis outbreak at a Greenwood elementary school. "When you're conducting a contact investigation, because it takes the body so long - that 2-10 weeks to respond to the test- you can't speed up an investigation." says Rabley.

Associated Press: SC researchers unveil hurricane model named HUGO

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130801/PC16/130809958/1006/sc-researchers-unveil-hurricane-model-named-hugo>

BRUCE SMITH

As hurricane season approaches its peak, researchers at Coastal Carolina University on Thursday unveiled a new hurricane model program named after a massive Category 4 storm that smashed into South Carolina a quarter-century ago. Scientists say the model called Hurricane Genesis and Outlook, or HUGO, provides predictions of where hurricanes will hit coupled with a better estimate of storm surge and flooding. Hurricane Hugo hit South Carolina with 135 mph winds in 1989.

Herald-Journal: SC Treasurer Loftis visits Spartanburg Soup Kitchen

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20130801/ARTICLES/130809969/1001/sports02?Title=SC-Treasurer-Loftis-visits-Spartanburg-Soup-Kitchen>

Kim Kimzey

South Carolina Treasurer Curtis Loftis put on vinyl industrial gloves Thursday and got to work. He doled out servings of shrimp salad at the Spartanburg Soup Kitchen. "Some people go on vacation, but for 10 years of my life, I did this type of work," Loftis, who's seeking re-election next year, said.

The State: First Citadel female grad, Sen. Bright will take on Graham

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/01/2894539/mace-bright-expected-to-face-graham.html>

ANDREW SHAIN

Nancy Mace, the first woman to graduate from The Citadel, and state Sen. Lee Bright, one of the Legislature's more outspoken libertarians, say they will announce soon that they will run against U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham in next year's Republican primary. The two challengers would join Richard Cash, an Easley

businessman who lost a 2010 Republican congressional runoff, in trying to block Graham from winning a fourth six-year term in the Senate.

Post and Courier: Nancy Mace expected to challenge Sen. Lindsey Graham

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130801/PC16/130809953/1006/nancy-mace-expected-to-challenge-sen-lindsey-graham>

Robert Behre

Nancy Mace, one of The Citadel's first two female graduates, is expected to announce Saturday that she will challenge U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham in next June's GOP primary. Mace has indicated she may run and said Thursday she will make her decision known Saturday morning at the Berkeley County GOP breakfast meeting in Goose Creek.

The Hill: Sen. Graham gets second primary challenger

<http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/senate-races/315095-report-sen-graham-gets-second-primary-challenger>
Alexandra Jaffe

Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) has his second primary challenger in Nancy Mace, who will announce her Senate campaign Saturday, according to The Daily Caller. Mace was the first female graduate of the Citadel military university, and went on to co-found a libertarian-leaning news site called FITSNews. She's a longtime Ron Paul supporter and has ties to the Tea Party in South Carolina.

Gannett: Graham & Gowdy seek deeper look into Benghazi consulate attack

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/02/2895745/graham-gowdy-see-deeper-look.html>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

Two South Carolina Republicans are among a group of eight asking the incoming FBI director to more aggressively investigate last September's attacks on the American consulate in Benghazi, Libya. "We struggle to understand why we don't know more about those who attacked two U.S. compounds and murdered four brave Americans," the group wrote to incoming FBI Director James Comey, who was confirmed for the job by the Senate on Monday.

The State: What's a few billion dollars? A start (Opinion)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/02/2894832/mulvaney-whats-a-few-billion-dollars.html>

Mick Mulvaney

It's rare that one of the most conservative members of Congress joins one of the most liberal to pass significant legislation. But that is exactly what happened last week. Here's how, and why: Each year, Congress spends money on the elaborately titled "Overseas Contingency Operations Account." Translated, this is the war budget, or money needed for operations primarily in Afghanistan. It is entirely separate from the "base defense budget," which is regular and recurring military spending.

Associated Press: Clyburn scheduled to host health fair in Santee

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=YZFGSdWB

U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn is scheduled to host a health fair in Santee. On Friday, Clyburn is putting on the ninth annual Ollie Johnson Memorial I-95 Health Fair. The event is free and open to the public. Officials from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine will be on hand for screenings that can detect the potential for a stroke.

Morning News: Rep. Rice plans one-on-one constituent meetings

http://mobi.scnw.com/scnow/pm_121102/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=3yoXtVTI

Congressman Tom Rice (R-SC) will conduct one-on-one constituent meetings throughout the Pee Dee Aug. 5. "I am happy to host one-on-one constituent meetings because it is important to sit down with folks face-to-face to hear about their needs, and the needs of our community," Rice said.

WLTX: Cong. Wilson Calls For Relocation of U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem

<http://www.wltx.com/news/national/article/244589/142/Cong-Wilson-Calls-For-Relocation-of-US-Embassy-to-Jerusalem>

Derry London

South Carolina Congressman Joe Wilson introduced a resolution calling for the relocation of the US Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. Introducing H. Con. Res. 48, that commemorates the 46th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem, and also begin the process of relocating the Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The State: SC's SCANA says its earnings increased 9 percent

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/01/2894034/scana-earnings-jump-9-percent.html>

KRISTY EPPLEY RUPON

Consumers still are cutting back on their use of electricity, switching off lights and turning the air conditioning up as they battle through the slow economic recovery, SCANA officials said Thursday, releasing the utility's second-quarter earnings. But the Cayce-based giant said its customer base is growing, making up for the shortfall in use by individual customers. SCANA Corp., parent company of S.C. Electric & Gas, reported its earnings increased 9 percent in the second quarter compared with the same period a year earlier, beating analysts' expectations.

Greenville News: BMW launches production of third-generation X5

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130802/BUSINESS/308020012/BMW-launches-production-third-generation-X5>

Woody White

BMW Manufacturing Co. said it began assembling the third generation of its X5 sports activity vehicle today. The first of the new vehicles to roll off the assembly line was Mineral White and powered by a six-cylinder inline diesel engine with M Performance TwinPower Turbo technology, the Greer plant said, adding that it will be exported to a dealer in Eastern Europe.

Associated Press: Agency gives former worker \$120K to settle dispute

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=RvdqwB5x

A former employee of the South Carolina agency that polices workplace safety has received \$120,000 to settle a dispute over his firing. The State newspaper reports (<http://bit.ly/14mOc0t>) that the state Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation admits no wrongdoing in its settlement with Mark Kelly, who was fired in fall 2011. The State obtained the December settlement through a public records request.

The State: Ex-state worker paid \$120,000 in settlement over his firing

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/01/2895689/ex-state-worker-paid-120000-in.html>

TIM FLACH

A former employee of the state agency that polices workplace safety and the conduct of members of 43 professions received \$120,000 to settle a dispute over his dismissal. Mark Kelly, who investigated complaints against nurses, was paid in a deal in which officials at the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation admit no wrongdoing.

The State: University of South Carolina did not know of lawsuit against endowed professor

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/01/2895691/university-of-south-carolina-did.html>

ANDREW SHAIN

The University of South Carolina was not aware when it hired a top researcher that he had been sued over allegations that he misused federal grant money at his former school. Northwestern University agreed this week to pay \$2.9 million to the government to settle a 2009 whistleblower lawsuit that alleged pharmaceutical researcher Charles Bennett improperly spent federal money, including on family travel, while at that school.

Post and Courier: C of C President George Benson to step down in 2014

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130801/PC16/130809955/1006/c-of-c-president-george-benson-to-step-down-in-2014>

Diane Knich

The College of Charleston soon will begin the search for a new president after George Benson announced Friday that he would step down in June 2014. Benson, 67, who has held the college's top post since 2007, will be leaving several months before the end of his current contract, which runs through Feb. 28, 2015. He said he planned to take a year sabbatical after he stepped down, and then return as a faculty member in the college's School of Business.

The State: Columbia could be in for an 'exciting' 20 years (Opinion)

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/02/2894834/bolton-columbia-could-be-in-for.html>

Warren Bolton

WHAT HAPPENS when a one-of-a-kind, potentially game-changing project planned for the largest piece of undeveloped property in a city core on the East Coast intersects with an unprecedented effort to transform

the public bus system as well as the overall transportation network — from roads to sidewalks to bike paths? It's a question this community has the good fortune to ponder as the development of a mixed-use project planned for the State Hospital property on Bull Street and a billion-dollar infusion into the local transit and transportation network simultaneously move forward in Richland County over the next two decades.

Greenville News: Use state sales tax holiday wisely (Opinion)

www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130802/OPINION/308020001/Use-state-sales-tax-holiday-wisely
Editorial

Beginning today back-to-school shoppers can enjoy three days of purchases without sales tax on many items that are traditionally needed for the start of school. This is the 14th year that South Carolina's back-to-school sales tax holiday has been conducted, and it always generates significant discussion over its merits and its problems. Retailers enjoy the tax free weekend because, apart from the busiest days during the Christmas shopping season, stores are more packed than at any other time in the year. A lot of money is spent under the banner of saving money, and retailers enjoy the added business that breaks up what is normally a more modest sales period.

Post and Courier: Local sales add savings during tax-free weekend (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130802/PC1208/130809946/1177/local-sales-add-savings-during-tax-free-weekend>

Abigail Darlington

Tax-free weekend is a holiday worth observing for bargain hunters in Charleston. Not only will certain items be exempt from the local and state sales taxes this weekend, many retailers are furthering the savings with discounts of their own. Here's how to seize extra saving opportunities at local shops:

Greenville News: Many flood complaints, few answers for Simpsonville residents

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20130802/NEWS/308020029/Many-flood-complaints-few-answers-Simpsonville-residents>

Paul Alongi

Simpsonville residents met Thursday to figure out what could be done about flooding, and the conversation was almost as stormy as the weather that has been sending water rushing into their yards. They had complaints about overgrown detention ponds, too-small culverts, crushed pipes that cause back ups and sinkholes that swallow parts of lawns.

Post and Courier: Stop discouraging solar power (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130802/PC1002/130809930/1021/stop-d discouraging-solar-power>
Editorial

On average, Boston enjoys 200 sunny days a year. Charleston enjoys 230 — an additional month of sunny days. But Boston is light years ahead of Charleston — and South Carolina in general — in the area of solar energy.

Associated Press: Jury finds for developer in AVX lawsuit

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=N0w2X4zv

A state jury has awarded \$750,000 in damages to a Myrtle Beach developer who sued AVX Corp. saying groundwater pollution by the electronics manufacturer derailed a condominium project. The Sun News of Myrtle Beach reports (<http://bit.ly/1egd34y>) the jury returned the verdict on Thursday.

Sun News: Jury awards Myrtle Beach developers \$750,000 in damages in AVX pollution case

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/2013/08/01/3619942/jury-awards-myrtle-beach-developers.html>

David Wren

A jury on Thursday ordered AVX Corp. to pay \$750,000 in actual and punitive damages to the developer of a condominium project in Myrtle Beach that lost its financial backing in 2007 after it was discovered the property's groundwater had been contaminated with trichloroethylene migrating from the adjacent manufacturer's facility. The jury awarded \$250,000 in punitive damages, agreeing that AVX's conduct in releasing the pollution and then trying to hide it from the public for 14 years was both reckless and willful.

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National News

McClatchy: Unemployment rate falls to 7.4%

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/02/2896234/unemployment-rate-falls-to-74.html>

Kevin G. Hall

Employers added a disappointing 162,000 jobs in July, the government reported Friday in a report that also saw the improving unemployment rate fall two-tenths of a percentage point to 7.4 percent. Mainstream economic forecasters were expecting job growth closer to 200,000, so Friday's number dashed expectations built by a strong reading of second-quarter economic growth just days earlier.

McClatchy: Senators worry about cost of finding remains of long-lost troops

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/08/02/2896181/senators-worry-about-cost-of-finding.html>

Matthew Schofield

A Senate subcommittee review Thursday of the military commands that oversee finding and bringing home the remains of long-lost troops made it clear there are deep problems. The process is poor. The results are lacking. The infighting among those involved was likened to "the bickering of 5-year-olds" by Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., chairwoman of the Senate subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight.

Post and Courier: Carmakers post strongest July sales since 2006

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130802/PC05/130809942/1010/carmakers-post-strongest-july-sales-since-2006>

Jade McDuffie

Business is booming for car dealerships around the country — so much so that local dealers are hiring more staff members and popular vehicles are flying off their lots. On Thursday General Motors Co., the nation's largest automaker, posted the largest July increase, of 16 percent, with double-digit sales growth for all four of its brands (Buick, Cadillac, GMC and Chevrolet).

Associated Press: New approach as Army confronts rising suicide rate

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=phCxxWWu

BRETT BARROUQUERE

Gen. John F. Campbell's frustration with the Army's suicide rate is unmistakable when he raises his voice and drops his head as he speaks about it. Despite the programs offered to soldiers, the number taking their own lives keeps rising, including 14 possible suicides in June. For Campbell, the Army's vice-chief of staff, it's a problem that seems at times almost impossible to solve.

Post and Courier: GOP must restrain tea partiers' unrealistic zeal (Opinion)

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130802/PC1001/130809932/1021/gop-tea-partiers-go-too-far-on-national-security-shutdown>

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

A combination of early presidential maneuvering and internal policy debate is feeding yet another iteration of that media perennial: the great Republican crackup. This time it's tea party insurgents versus get-along establishment fogies fighting principally over two things: a) national security and b) Obamacare. National security: Gov. Chris Christie recently challenged Sen. Rand Paul over his opposition to the National Security Agency metadata program. Paul has also tangled with Sen. John McCain and other internationalists over drone warfare, democracy promotion and, more generally, intervention abroad.

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